



**Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc.
Barre, VT**

Project Title	Vermont Assets for Independence Program
Contact Information	Linda Macris 195 US Route 302-Berlin Barre, VT 05641 (802) 479-1053
Grant Amount	\$135,330
Nonfederal Support	\$135,330
Project Period	September 2004 – September 2009
Highlights	<p>The Vermont Assets for Independence Program is an expansion of an existing AFI-supported IDA project targeting working low-income Vermonters. Collaborating and partnering organizations will open 115 new IDAs for the asset goals of post-secondary education or training, microbusiness development, and homeownership. The program will match participant savings at a rate of \$3 to \$1 for participants who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and \$2 to \$1 for other participants.</p> <p>Partner agencies for the Vermont AFI Program will work collaboratively to build economic literacy; refer participants to essential resources and support services; and encourage those who are willing to work, learn, and accumulate significant assets to realize their dreams of homeownership, post-secondary education or vocational training, and business development.</p>
Target Population	Low-income people throughout Vermont and families eligible for TANF.
Grantee/Collaborative Description	<p>The Central Vermont Community Action Council has been in operation for 38 years. It serves over 11,000 economically disadvantaged people in 6,000 households in three rural central Vermont counties.</p> <p>The Central Vermont Community Action Council will administer the IDA project in collaboration with Vermont's other four community action agencies and a regional land trust. Partners include Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Gilman Housing Trust, Northeast Kingdom Community Actions, and Southeastern Vermont Community Action.</p>